

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 sub B.17

1. A tripod bearing assembly comprising:
a spider assembly having a trunion radially
projecting therefrom;
a bearing assembly press fit onto the trunion,
the bearing assembly comprising an inner race, an outer
10 race, and a plurality of needle rollers interposed
therebetween to permit relative rotation between the
inner and outer race; and
means for axially retaining the bearing
assembly to the spider.

15

2. A spider assembly according to claim 1,
further comprising said trunion having a non-machined
outer surface for press-fit engagement with the inner
race of the bearing assembly.

20

3. A spider assembly according to claim 2,
further comprising a means for angularly retaining the
bearing to the trunion.

25

4. A bearing assembly according to claim 3,
wherein the inner race comprises a formed cup.

5. A bearing assembly according to claim 4,
wherein the cup is formed by drawing.

30

6. A method of assembling a tripod bearing
assembly including a spider, comprising:
forming a plurality of trunions on the spider;

6-9 OK
for
29/898.06
H Tan H.

7

69222T" 64296680

press fitting a bearing assembly onto the
trunion, the bearing assembly comprising an inner race,
an outer race, and a plurality of rollers interposed
therebetween to permit relative rotation between the
5 inner and outer race; and

axially retaining the bearing assembly to the
spider.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the
10 trunion is forged and the bearing is press-fit onto the
trunion without machining the trunion.

8. A method according to claim 7, further
comprising the step of angularly retaining the bearing to
15 the trunion.

9. A method according to claim 8, further
comprising the step of drawing the inner race.

20 *Sub B2* 10. A tripod bearing assembly including a
spider, comprising:

a non-machined trunion radially provided on the
spider, the trunion comprising an undercut adjacent the
spider, a cylindrical surface, and a snap ring groove
25 axially spaced from the undercut;

a bearing assembly press-fit onto the trunion
between the spider and snap ring groove, the bearing
assembly comprising an inner race, an outer race, and a
plurality of needle rollers interposed therebetween to
30 permit relative rotation between the inner and outer
race; and

means for axially and angularly retaining the
bearing assembly to the spider.

11. A bearing assembly according to claim 10,
wherein the inner race comprises a formed cup.

12. A bearing assembly according to claim 11,
5 wherein the cup is formed by drawing.

Add C₂ >
Add O₂ >

00996249 132997